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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1797.

Whitehall, February 27, 1797.

A LETTER, of which the following is a Copy, has been this Day received from the Right Honorable Lord Cawdor by His Grace the Duke of Portland, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Fishguard, Friday, February 24, 1797.

My Lord,

IN consequence of having received Information, on Wednesday Night at Eleven o'Clock, that Three large Ships of War and a Lugger had anchored in a small Roadsted, upon the Coast in the Neighbourhood of this Town, I proceeded immediately, with a Detachment of the Cardigan Militia and all the Provincial Force I could collect, to the Place. I soon gained positive Intelligence they had disembarked about 1200 Men, but no Cannon. Upon the Night's setting in, a French Officer, whom I found to be the Second in Command, came in with a Letter, a Copy of which I have the Honor to inclose to your Grace, together with my Answer: In consequence of which they determined to surrender themselves Prisoners of War, and accordingly laid down their Arms this Day at Two o'Clock.

I cannot at this Moment inform your Grace of the exact Number of Prisoners, but I believe it to be their whole Force: It is my Intention to march them this Night to Haverfordwest, where I shall make the best Distribution in my Power. The Frigates, Corvette, and Lugger, got under Weigh Yesterday Evening, and were this Morning entirely out of Sight.

The Fatigue we have experienced will, I trust, excuse me to your Grace for not giving a more particular Detail; but my Anxiety to do Justice to the Officers and Men I had the Honor to command, will induce me to attend your Grace with as little Delay as possible to state their Merits, and at the same Time to give you every Information in my Power upon this Subject.

The Spirit of Loyalty which has pervaded all Ranks throughout this Country is infinitely beyond what I can express. I am, &c. CAWDOR.

Cardigan Bay, 5th of Ventose, 5th Year of the Republic.

SIR,

THE Circumstances under which the Body of the French Troops under my Command were landed at this Place renders it unnecessary to attempt any Military Operations, as they would tend only to Bloodshed and Pillage. The Officers of the whole Corps have therefore intimated their Desire of entering into a Negotiation, upon Principles of Humanity, for a Surrender. If you are influenced by similar Considerations you may signify the same by the Bearer, and in the mean Time Hostilities shall cease.

Salut and Respect,

TATE,
Chef de Brigade.

To the Officer commanding His Britannick Majesty's Troops.

Fishguard, February 23, 1797.

SIR,

THE Superiority of the Force under my Command, which is hourly increasing, must prevent my treating upon any Terms short of your surrendering your whole Force Prisoners of War. I enter fully into your Wish of preventing an unnecessary Effusion of Blood, which your speedy Surrender can alone prevent, and which will entitle you to that Consideration it is ever the Wish of British Troops to shew an Enemy, whose Numbers are inferior.

My Major will deliver you this Letter, and I shall expect your Determination by Ten o'Clock, by your Officer, whom I have furnished with an Escort, that will conduct him to me without Molestation.

I am, &c,

CAWDOR,

To the Officer commanding the French Troops.

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